Remarks

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action mailed January 6, 2004. A three month time extension has been requested to respond to the Office action. An Information Disclosure Statement is also filed herewith. Deposit Account No. 501269 is to be charged for the fees for this time extension and Information Disclosure Statement filing fee. Claims 9 and 10 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 6 and 12 have been amended. Reconsideration and favorable action in this application is respectfully requested.

The present invention constitutes a method and content delivery network wherein previously stored or cached content files are identified and subsequently removed from a set of content servers in a content delivery network. Content files to be removed are identified. An aggregate purge request which includes identifiers for each content file to be removed from the content servers is pushed to a set of staging servers. Periodically, the content servers obtain the aggregate purge request from a given staging server. At each content server, the content file is purged based upon the aggregate purge request.

Claims 1 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Garrity et al.* It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 11, as amended, are now in condition for allowance. It is respectfully submitted that the *Garrity et al.* reference does not disclose or teach a content delivery network wherein distributed content servers, network mapping servers and associated mechanisms track reporting and administration of content delivery services. The *Garrity et al.* reference merely identifies "content" as data to be managed in a data processing system. In Col. 8, lines 12 – 19, the "data" or "content" which is sent to a server is live data. The data is streamed to content consumers. The staged data is data sent in the form of a file for storage in a file prior to being sent to a content consumer. The sending of content is referred to as an "event". A user has a number of selections including maintain

promotions, remove an event, add an event, edit an event, review an event or terminate (Col. 8, lines 60 – 64). If the user does not choose to maintain promotions, the process then determines whether the user action is to remove an event (step 612). If the user has chosen to remove an event, the specified entry is removed. (Col. 9, lines 10 – 15). In *Garrity et al.* the removal of an event is to prevent the user from receiving data whereas, in the present invention, the user has previously stored data which is to be purged from content servers. "Removing an event" in *Garrity et al* is not equivalent to the purging of previously stored data from a content server in a content delivery network. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 11 clearly define over the *Garrity et al.* reference, and are now in condition for allowance. Claims 2 – 8, depending from claim 1, and claim 12, depending from claim 11, further define the present invention, and it is respectfully submitted that these dependent claims are also in condition for allowance.

U. S. Patent No. 6,405,252, submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith, at Col. 14, lines 31 – 34, identifies a feature of NetView software that allows a customer to "flush" content from a "point of presence" network when new content is published to a server. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 11, clearly define over the '252 Patent.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of claims 1 – 8, 11 and 12 is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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